

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 ONY-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1807

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FOR AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, CG

SUBJECT: FY 79 AND FY 80 BUDGETED ASSISTANCE FOR AFRICA

REF: STATE 224147

SUMMARY: THE PROPOSED LEVELS FOR FY 79 DA FUNDING AND FY 79 AND 80 PL 480 FUNDING AND FY 80 FMS FUNDING GIVE THE EMBASSY NO DIFFICULTY. HOWEVER, THE PROPOSED FUNDING LEVEL FOR DA IN FY80, AND FMS IN FY79 WOULD PUT A SERIOUS CRIMP IN THE USG'S ABILITY TO ACCOMPLISH ITS OBJECTIVES IN ZAIRE. END SUMMARY

2. EMBASSY HAS NO DIFFICULTY WITH THESDOLS 10.6 MILLION PROPOSED FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN THE HOUSE PASSED VERSION OF THE FY79 APPROPRIATION BILL. THE SMALL REDUCTION THAT THIS LEVEL WOULD ENTAIL IN THE PROPOSED AG SECTOR MARKETING LOAN WOULD NOT BE SUCH AS TO JEOPARDIZE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT. THE SAME HOLDS TRUE FOR THE FY 79 PL-480 ASSISTANCE WHERE THE CUT FROM THE PROPOSED LEVEL COULD BE ACCOMMODATED BY DECREASING THE LEVELS OF TOBACCO AND COTTON PROVIDED UNDER THE PROGRAM. THIS WOULD LESSEN THE JOB CREATION/MAINTENANCE IMPACT OF THE PROGRAM, BUT WOULD NOT UNDERCUT OUR BASIC OBJECTIVES.

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3. IN THE CASE OF THE PROPOSED FY79 PACKAGE, HOWEVER, OUR ABILITY TO ENCOURAGE THE ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO REORGANIZE AND REFORM THE MILITARY WOULD BE SEVERELY LIMITED BY THE PROPOSED LOW LEVEL. A MAJOR EMPHASIS OF OUR POLICY TOWARD THE ZAIRIAN MILITARY IS SUPPORTING REFORM AND REORGANIZATION EFFORTS BY CONCENTRATING ON SMALLER AND BETTER TRAINED UNITS

WITH NON-SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT, WHILE ENCOURAGING MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IN PARTICULAR THE TRANSPORT SECTOR, WHENEVER FEASIBLE. THE \$10.5 MILLION LEVEL ESTABLISHED BY THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE WORKING GROUP IS SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE AND SPARE PART SUPPORT FOR PREVIOUS FMS PURCHASED EQUIPMENT, BUT NOT TO REPLACE DESTROYED AND/OR UNUSABLE US-SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT NOR TO PROVIDE ANY INCENTIVE FOR CONTINUED PROGRESS IN THE REFORM AREA. AS A RESULT OF THE LOSSES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF THE TWO SHABE INVASIONS ONLY 6 OF THE 15 CESSNA 310 AIRCRAFT PURCHASED IN 1975 ARE NOW OPERABLE. THESE CRAFT HAVE PROVED INVALUABLE IN OBSERVATION, TRAINING AND LIAISON ROLES, AND 15 IS THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT NECESSARY TO MEET THE MANY DEMANDS OPERATIONS IN ZAIRE PLACE ON THE FLEET. IN ADDITION, AT LEAST 100 NEW TRUCKS WOULD BE NECESSARY TO REPLACE THOSE CONSUMED BY ONE YEAR'S OPERATION ON A PRIMITIVE ROAD NETWORK WITH THE ADDED HANDICAP OF UNSKILLED DRIVERS AND MECHANICS AND AN INADEQUATE LOGISTICS SYSTEM. CURRENTLY AVAILABLE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT IS INADEQUATE FOR A NET WHICH MUST COVER NEARLY A MILLION SQUARE MILES. IN ORDER TO MEET THESE BASIC NEEDS, THE FY79 FMS PACKAGE WILL NEED TO CONSIST OF AT LEAST \$13.6 MILLION, DIVIDED ROUGHLY AS FOLLOWS:

C130 SUPPLY SUPPORT AGREEMENT		\$3.5 MILLION
DEPOT OVERHAUL - 1 C130	1.2	
LOCKHEED TECHNICAL SERVICES	.8	
CESSNA SPARE PARTS AND TECH REPS	.4	
ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL ADVISOR	.1	
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COMMUNICATIONS SPARES	.3	
TRUCK, JEEP, AND OTHER VEHICLE SPARES	1.1	
10 CESSNA 310 AIRCRAFT	2.2	
100 HEAVY DUTY TRUCKS	3.0	
ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT	1.0	

4. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ACTIVE SUPPORT TO FAZ REORGANIZATION EFFORTS, ADDITIONAL SUMS WOULD BE REQUIRED. OBVIOUSLY, THIS SORT OF SUPPORT WOULD BE CONTINGENT ON FURTHER ZAIRIAN PROGRESS IN REFORMING THE MILITARY. SUCH A PACKAGE WOULD INCLUDE PURCHASE OF \$9.9 MILLION WORTH OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT TO SUPPORT ONE NEW LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE. OTHER REQUESTS THAT ARE JUSTIFIED ON BOTH POLICY AND PRACTICALITY GROUNDS INCLUDE ADDITIONAL MEDICAL SUPPLIES, TROOP SUPPORT EQUIPMENT, ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER COMMAND AND LOGISTICS EQUIPMENT AMOUNTING TO ROUGHLY \$7.8 MILLION. THIS WOULD MAKE A TOTAL OF \$17.7 MILLION IN ADDITION TO THE \$13.6 MILLION BASIC PACKAGE DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 3 ABOVE. WHILE THIS INCREMENT WOULD BE DESIRABLE, WE ARE AWARE OF BUDGETARY REALITIES. AN ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF \$4 MILLION, BRINGING THE TOTAL FY 79 FMS BACK TO THE \$17.6 MILLION ORIGINALLY REQUESTED, WOULD ENABLE US TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL CONTRIBUTION TO FAZ REORGANIZATION AND REFORM.

5. THE SAME RATIONALE WILL APPLY WITH EVEN GREATER FORCE TO FY80 FMS CREDITS. IF REFORMS ARE SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED, THE US WILL WANT TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE GREATER ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE FAZ REORGANIZATION EFFORTS THEN IN PROGRESS. IN THIS CASE, THE \$17.7 MILLION CURRENTLY PROPOSED FOR FMS CREDITS IN FY80 WILL PROVE INADEQUATE.

6. THE PROPOSED \$12.2 MILLION CEILING FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN FY80 WOULD ALSO REQUIRE A MAJOR REARRANGEMENT OF PROJECT PRIORITIES AND FUNDING LEVELS, SPECIFICALLY, DEFERRING THE PROPOSED AG SECTOR MARKETING LOAN UNLESS THE \$7 MILLION "ENHANCEMENT PACKAGE" WAS APPROVED AS WELL. THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS THIS LOAN, PROGRAMMED IN INCREASING AMOUNTS THROUGH FY84 AS CRITICAL TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALLEVIATING TRANSPORT CONSTRAINTS IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, AND THEREBY FULFILLING OUR OBJECTIVE OF IDENTIFYING OUR AID PROGRAMS WITH THE NEEDS AND GOALS OF THE ZAIRIAN PEOPLE AND WORKING THROUGH THEM, RATHER THAN IDENTIFYING OURSELVES WITH THE CURRENT REGIME. THIS, TOGETHER WITH THE PROPOSED \$20 MILLION ZAIRIAN SHARE OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION FUND, WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARD RELIEVING SERIOUS BOTTLENECKS IN THE TRANSPORT SECTOR, BOLSTERING CURRENT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EFFORTS IN THE AREA AND POSSIBLY LESSENING THE NEED FOR FUTURE AGRICULTURAL AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE.

7. IN THE SHORT RUN, THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE PROPOSED UNDER THE AFRICAN STABILIZATION FUND COULD BE USED ADVANTAGEOUSLY AS A CIP TYPE LOAN, FOCUSED ON ZAIRE'S DEVELOPMENT NEEDS.

8. THE EMBASSY CAN ACCOMMODATE THE PROPOSED FY80 CUT IN PL-480 FUNDS TO DOLS 15.7 MILLION BY AGAIN TRIMMING TOBACCO AND COTTON PROCUREMENT REQUESTS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KINSHA09627
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780363-0690
Format: TEL
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780984/aaaacrqw.tel
Line Count: 155
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 007b7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS, ONLY
Reference: 78 STATE 224147
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1493659
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FY 79 AND FY 80 BUDGETED ASSISTANCE FOR AFRICA
TAGS: EAID, CG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/007b7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014